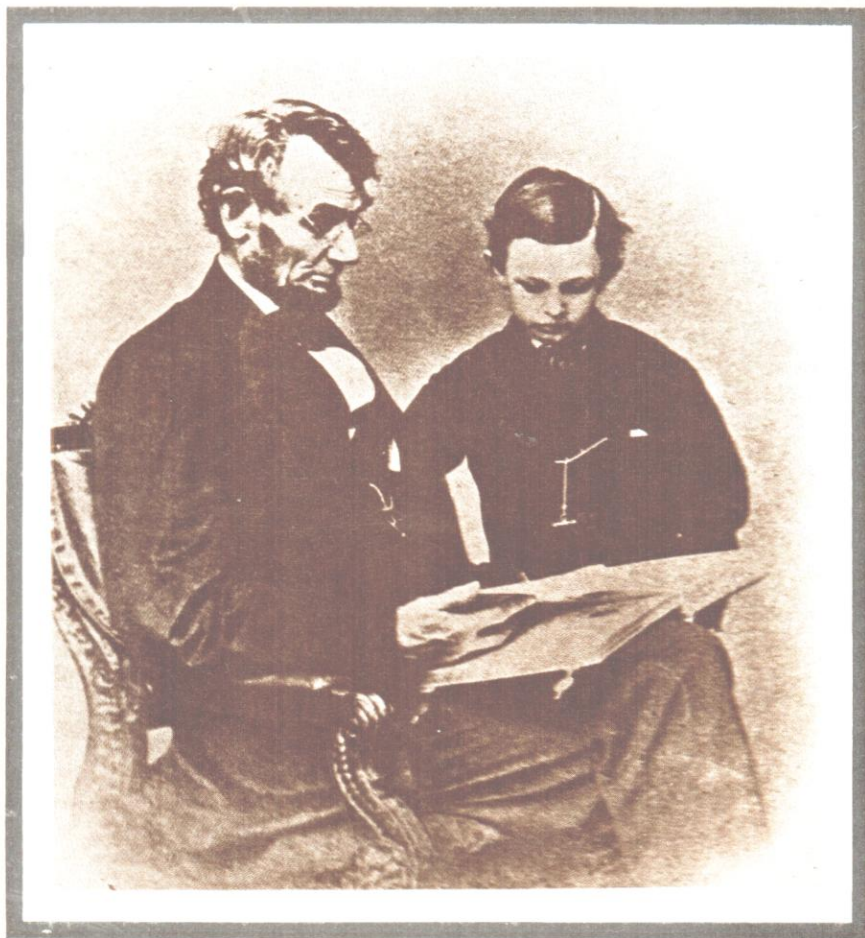


"Go, set a watchman,
Let him declare what he seeth."

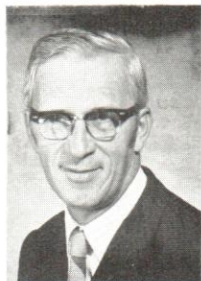
ISAIAH 21:6

FEBRUARY 1978

THE SABBATH SENTINEL



Sad Sermon



Eugene Lincoln

ON December 24 I preached the saddest sermon in my life. It was at the next-to-last worship service of the Hermitage, Tenn., Seventh-day Adventist Church. Members had voted to disband after

the December 31 service.

I have many happy memories of Hermitage—the members' friendliness when our family first visited the church, the warm hospitality they gave the Bible Sabbath Association when our sessions were held there in 1976, the socials to which I had been invited even though I was not a member.

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Members will be scattering now to other congregations in the area, but I doubt if the Hermitage church will ever be forgotten—certainly not by me!

THE SABBATH SENTINEL

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The object of this non-sectarian, nondenominational association is to bring together into one strong organization all believers in the Biblical seventh-day Sabbath (Saturday) regardless of sect, creed, or denomination, for the sole purpose of spreading knowledge of, belief in, and observance of the Creator's Holy Day. The only qualification is belief in the seventh-day Sabbath.

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*Attempting to kidnap a
President was nothing compared to . . .*

The Moving of a Monument

EUGENE LINCOLN

ONE OF THE most bizarre crimes ever attempted in the United States took place on November 7, 1876, when a band of counterfeiters attempted to kidnap a President. The idea of kidnapping a President is unusual enough, but what made this plot more unusual was that the President who was almost kidnaped was Abraham Lincoln, who had been dead for over eleven years at the time!

Benjamin Boyd and a Dr. Driggs had been sentenced on October 21 of that year for counterfeiting, Boyd being sent to prison at Joliet, Ill., to serve his term.

Terrance Mullens and Jack Hughes, salesmen for the counterfeiting gang, conceived a plan to free Boyd and to get some money besides. They would kidnap Lincoln's body, and for ransom they would demand the release of Boyd and also a cash settlement of \$200,000.

Since Mullens and Hughes were suspected of complicity in the counterfeiting, Lewis S. Swengles, a detective, was assigned to keep an eye on them. So well did he do the job that they made him their confidant, revealing the kidnaping plot to him and including him in their plans. He was assigned to keep watch while the body was being removed from the tomb.

Late at night the conspirators and detective entered the tomb at Oakridge Cemetery in Springfield. Swengles, telling them that he was going after a horse and wagon, left to contact other detectives who had been alerted and were hiding in the



**Monument
Springfield, Illinois**

vicinity.

The others went to work in the tomb, prying off the lid of the marble sarcophagus. They had begun to remove the casket when several detectives rushed into the tomb with guns cocked. In the confusion one of the detectives' guns accidentally fired, giving the kidnapers enough of a warning to escape. They were arrested several days later in Chicago. Since there was no law in Illinois against stealing a body each one received one-year prison sentence for burglary.

Now, over a hundred years later, we must credit these men with resourcefulness, originality, and daring. But what if, instead of stealing the body, they had

attempted to remove the monument over the tomb?

That would have been an impossible task. The work would have taken a long period, and people would have discovered it long before it was completed.

But men have removed the greatest memorial ever erected—one established by the Creator Himself which was to last throughout eternity. And many people today are not aware that it is missing, for the ones who removed this memorial put another one in its place—one that (unless you examine it closely) looks much like the missing one.

At the very beginning of time the Lord established the Sabbath (Genesis 2:1-3). He planned for it to be a memorial of His power to create a universe in six days (Exodus 20:10, 11), and He meant for the memorial to last forever (Exodus 31:13); He expected it to last even in the world to come (Isaiah 66:22, 23). This weekly memorial was specified as "the seventh day" (Exodus 20:10).

For years God's people remembered—even if they did not always faithfully observe—His special day. Even Christ (Luke 4:16) and the apostle Paul (Acts 17:2) in New Testament times observed the Sabbath.

But from early church history



Head of Lincoln at entrance to tomb.



**Sarcophagus Chamber
Lincoln's Tomb**

we learn that soon after the death of the apostles, as more Gentile converts were added to the church, some of them brought in ideas retained from their former religions. Many had been sun worshipers, and their day of worship, Sun-day, gradually began to supplant the Sabbath. The persecution of the early Christians by the Jews and the Christians' desire not to be associated with the Jews after the destruction of Jerusalem all tended toward their forgetting the day that the Lord had told them to remember (Exodus 20:8).

This change from keeping of the seventh day to the observance of the first day was almost universal by A.D. 321, when Roman Emperor Constantine decreed that all unnecessary work should cease "on the venerable day of the sun" (*Codex Justinianus*, lib. 3, tit. 12, 3, translated in Philip Schaff, D.D., *History of the Christian Church*).

But today the message is being proclaimed throughout Christendom to restore God's Sabbath—the true monument—to its rightful place. That call is coming to you now as you read this, if you are not keeping the only day of the week that the Lord made holy.

I invite you to study into the matter of which day the Lord has ordained for His followers to keep. Use only your Bible; trace the Sabbath throughout the Old and New Testaments. Then pray to the Lord for courage to do what He tells you to do.

The True Story of Pastor J. A. Barrera

A Roman Catholic Priest Turned Sabbatarian Pastor



I WAS BORN in Colombia, on May 29, 1924, to very devout Roman Catholic parents. I was baptized according to the Roman Catholic faith and received the best education in religious schools.

Very early in life I was determined to go into the priesthood, and therefore I spent 12

years in preparation for this vocation at a seminary in Garzon, Colombia. Upon successful graduation I was ordained a priest on February 26, 1950, and served as a hospital chaplain.

I continued my graduate studies, majoring in canon law at Javeriana University of Bogota,

Colombia, with the goal of becoming an ecclesiastical lawyer as Pope Pius XII had done. I received the degree of licentiate in canon law in 1955.

In all my intellectual and religious preparation I lacked a valid conversion experience. I had absolutely no personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. I didn't even know how to pray to Him, how to seek His Holy Spirit in my life. No evangelical church, pastor, or layman had even spoken to me about salvation, and I found it only through personal study of the Bible.

While I was a graduate student, studying law at the university, I was visited by a young seminarian who had become dissatisfied with some of the doctrines of the Catholic Church. But at that time I did not accept what he considered to be some outdated practices of our faith.

Several months later, however, as I studied the Bible more, I could see some contradictions in Catholic doctrine and what the Bible taught. The young seminarian had been right. One practice that I now questioned was the requirement of the church for priests to be celibate. Even St. Peter, whom the church claimed as its first pope, was married. How could the church teach that marriage was a sacrament and yet refuse it to the clergy? I personally knew of many adultery cases among our priests because of forced celibacy. I desired with all my heart to be a priest, but I also wanted to marry.

Soon I decided to come to the United States and learn more of the practices and customs of evangelical believers. In 1958 I went to New York City and lodged at a house for ex-priests. I was accepted very well there, even though I remained at this time in the priesthood.

Then I relocated in Washington, D.C., to another home for ex-

priests. There I met a man who had been a priest and had become a Baptist. He invited me to attend worship services with him. The practices and customs were so different that it was difficult for me to adjust to the loosely structured service. At this time I still did not have a conversion experience.

My contact with the Baptist believers, however, taught me many new concepts, and I was invited to teach Spanish at a seminary in St. Paul, Minn. The doctors and professors were very nice to me, and we became good friends. It was while teaching at the seminary that I accepted Christ as my personal Savior.

I remained in the United States for one and a half years. After my conversion experience I was invited to speak in the pulpits of many evangelical denominations. All of them were different! At least in the Catholic Church we were all one. Protestantism was confusing to me. How could all of these different denominations believe in the same Bible as their only rule of faith and practice, and yet interpret it so differently? I could not find one which I wanted to join!

I returned to Colombia determined to study the Bible for a greater revelation of the pure doctrine of the true church of God on earth. I invited my friends in the priesthood to study with me. However, most of them lost interest after a few weeks. They were satisfied with what the Catholic Church taught as truth. All deserted me except for one, Father Serafin Rojas. We studied about the seventh-day Sabbath and prayed together about God's will for us in observing it.

I searched for an evangelical church in Colombia which held services on Saturday. With 98 percent of the population of Colombia being Roman Catholic,

this was not easy. At last, I found the Seventh-day Adventist Church at Bogota, and attended the services there every Sabbath for four months.

By this time news reached my superiors that I was studying to become a Seventh-day Adventist minister, which thing actually never materialized. However, my superiors accused me of being disloyal to my vocation and to my church, and I was forbidden to preach or teach in the pulpits and schools of Colombia. I could not even earn my daily bread. When my uncle, a Roman Catholic, heard the news, he denied me any financial aid and even excluded me from his friendship, cutting me out of his will at his death.

I sold my car to pay for my rent and food, and I bought two airplane tickets out of Colombia—one ticket for me and the other for my priest

friend Father Serafin Rajas. We went to Brazil and in 1962 began a Sabbatarian mission. He passed away in 1969 and left me to finish the work alone.

I married a lady in Brazil, and now we have four children. We have no material riches, only the true riches of salvation and the promise of eternal life in the world to come. Many times our daily bread is insufficient for our children.

I am not sorry that I left the Roman Catholic Church and its priesthood after eleven years of service and became a Sabbatarian pastor. We are happy about the truth that we accepted, and are in search for even greater light of God's Word.

My parents, relatives, and many friends are still Catholics. Many times I am made sad because of this, and my daily prayer is for them. There are many sincere Catholics just as I was. But they need salvation. Please pray for them and for me as I preach salvation by faith in Christ and obedience to His Sabbath day here in Brazil and other countries.

My conversion and commitment to complete obedience to God's Word brought many tribulations and sufferings to me, but

*"I will give thanks to Thee, O Lord,
For though thou wast angry with me
Thy anger turned away, and thou
didst comfort me.*

*Behold, God is my salvation.
I will trust, and will not be afraid; for
the Lord God is my strength and
my song,
And He has become my salvation."*

It is very important to be on the right track, but don't just sit there, you might be run over. —

Companion Tracts



These belong in every home in America.
Will you help us put them there?

- Roman Catholic Confessions About Sunday
- Protestant Confessions About Sunday

Send \$1.00 for one dozen of each.

The Bible Sabbath Association
Fairview, Oklahoma 73737



Is The Sabbath

Kept in Heaven?

GEORGE DELLINGER

DOES GOD observe the Sabbath with His angels in heaven, or is it an institution given only to man? This is an intriguing question. We can probably never come to a final answer, but we can offer some evidence that strongly suggests the answer is yes.

We read in Psalm 119:89, "For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven." In verse 152 we are told, "Concerning thy testimonies . . . thou hast founded them for ever." These verses seem to indicate that God's laws were established in heaven before they were established on earth. If so, then the Sabbath existed with God before it became an observance for man.

Acts 15:18 says, "Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world." (See also Revelation 13:8.) We see here that God definitely had His plans for the human race—including the sacrifice of Jesus Christ—worked out from the very beginning. This in itself is a good suggestion that God's observance and creation of the Sabbath in Genesis 2:2, 3 was not a first-time thing.

Outside the Bible, in Jewish writings that were not included in Scripture and which claim no divine revelation, we find additional evidence.

First, in a book called Jubilees, dated in the second century B.C., we read, in verse one of chapter two that God "kept Sabbath on the seventh day" and that He "appointed it as a sign for all His works."

"All His works" clearly was meant to include spirit beings. In verses 17-19 of the same chapter an angel is quoted as saying to Moses, "And He gave us a great sign, the Sabbath day, that we should work six days, but keep Sabbath on the

seventh day from all work. And all the angels of the presence, and all the angels of sanctification, these two great classes—He hath bidden us to keep the Sabbath with Him in heaven and on earth."

Then in verse 30 of this same chapter the angel plainly states, "we kept Sabbath in the heavens before it was made known to any flesh to keep Sabbath thereon on the earth."

In a curious Jewish work of the first century of the Christian era called The Apocalypse of Moses, in the third verse of chapter 43, the angel Michael is quoted as saying that on the Sabbath "God rejoiceth, and we angels too."

We must admit that these books are not inspired Scripture. But they do reflect Jewish ideas. And how much those Jewish ideas preserve truths not written in the Bible and now lost (things, that is, once known to the patriarchs and prophets of God) cannot be said. It is very possible that these ancient writings contain remembrances of things God once revealed but chose not to include in the Bible.

Furthermore, these statements of angels tie in well with what we find in Job 1:6 and 2:1, that there is a day when God's angels gather before Him. Could this possibly be the Sabbath?

Finally, is it not simple logic to imagine God—even though He is not bound by limits of time—to accommodate Himself to our ideas of a twenty-four day (which He created) in order that He may receive and rejoice in His people gathering to worship Him on the Sabbath? And, of course, His angels would participate as well.

We may not have a final answer to the question in the title, but the evidence is strong that the Sabbath is indeed kept in heaven.

THE HONOR ROLL

A Salute to Men and Women Who Sacrificed Personal Ambition to Devote Their Lives to the Work of the Kingdom of God

NETTIE BELL ALEXANDER (Mrs. Wyatt Hazelwood) was born on November 18, 1884, to Samuel and Martha Ann Street Alexander at Miami County, Kansas, in a little house at the top of a large hill overlooking Sugar Creek.

The Alexander family were members of the Christian Church and reared their nine children in that faith. In those days Sunday was commonly referred to as the Sabbath, and it was strictly observed as such by the faithful.

Nettie was baptized and became a member of the Christian Church at the age of eight. She had a very deep religious conviction that all the Ten Commandments should be observed, and she lived as a model for others to follow.

She was married to Wyatt Hazelwood at age 19 at Paola, Kansas. They made their home, a small dugout and sod house, near Gove City in the plains area of Kansas. Mr. Hazelwood was ambitious and was interested in making a lot of fast money by buying and selling cattle. There were no churches in the plains in those days, and wickedness was very great.

Nettie was an outspoken person and told her husband that the Lord was not pleased for them to dwell in the tents of wickedness—that they should move back East where they



NETTIE BELL HAZELWOOD

could rear their children among people who had respect for both God and mankind. They returned by covered wagon in the middle of a bad January storm to Miami County, Kansas, where they had started, and purchased a farm on Elm Branch. They joined the Methodist Church.

In her early twenties the Holy Spirit revealed many deep truths to young Nettie as she studied the Bible diligently. She was close to nature and often spent time out in

the open fields communing with her heavenly Father. In her later years as she neared death she recalled that those were some of the most happy years of her life. One memory that she spoke fondly of was when her husband was plowing corn in the field by the creek; the children were playing on a pallet while she caught fish and picked wild berries that grew in abundance for the evening meal.

In January 1912 the Hazelwood family—Mr. and Mrs. Hazelwood, and their five children—moved to Cedar County, Missouri, arriving at their new home, which was covered with fruit trees of all kinds, near Jerico Springs. It was in this environment that Nettie Hazelwood received a vision concerning the Sabbath which was the turning point for the family. In the vision she saw at the midnight hour light separated from darkness as in Genesis 1:13-23. God showed her that the light represented His day, and He made it for mankind to rest, and the darkness represented the blindness of the majority of people to the Sabbath truth. They began observing Saturday as the Sabbath.

In 1915 the family moved to a farm near El Dorado Springs, Missouri, where they all worked hard six days a week but rested on the Sabbath day at home, studying the Bible and praying together.

Elder Andrew N. Dugger, from Stanberry, Missouri, contacted Sister Hazelwood in the early 1920s and visited with the family many times, conducting worship services in the home and later conducting tent meetings and lectures in country schoolhouses and public halls. During those years the family became members of the Church of God (7th Day) with headquarters in Stanberry, Missouri, of which A. N. Dugger was president.

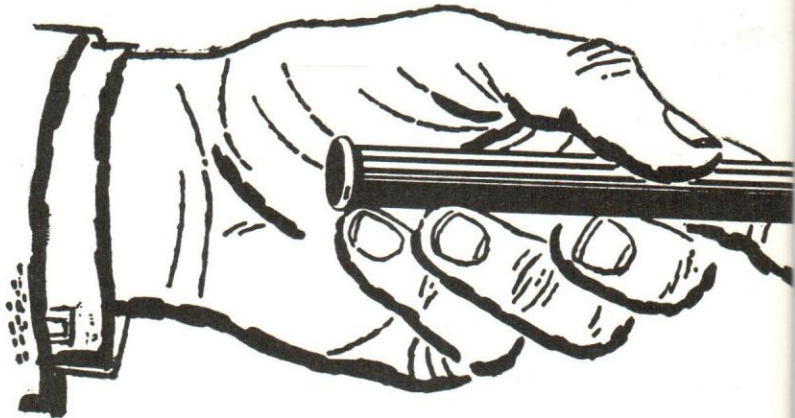
For the next twenty years traveling ministers of the Stanberry

organization visited the family. The Hazelwoods received *The Bible Advocate*, which was a source of spiritual strength to them.

Nettie definitely felt the call into the ministry, but woman preachers were considered "out of place" in those days among almost all Sabbatarians. However, A. N. Dugger encouraged her, and in 1941 she received missionary license and was granted permission to establish a church in El Dorado Springs. Even though she was admonished by some that this was not "a woman's place" and received much opposition, she continued on with what the Lord had called her to do.

How could she even question her calling just because she was a woman, she asked. Doesn't the Bible say that there was neither male nor female in the Lord? In 1948 a local congregation of the Church of God (7th Day) was established at El Dorado Springs, and Sister Hazelwood preached the Word to all those that the Lord led to listen to it. She wrote many articles on healthful living and on the governmental structure of the true church. She foresaw in the future many things that are happening today, but in many respects she was without honor and acknowledgment.

She remained a faithful coworker to Elder A. N. Dugger in Jerusalem, Israel, until her death on February 16, 1971. She requested that the following passage of Scripture be read at her funeral service: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day" (2 Timothy 4:7, 8). The body of the venerable Nettie Hazelwood was laid to rest in the El Dorado Springs cemetery to await the resurrection of the just.



SUNDAY LAWS are enacted at the instigation of political-minded clergymen who are anxious to protect the sanctity of a religious day and the authority of a church creed.

SUNDAY LAWS are religious laws, and as religious laws they have no place in a democracy committed to religious freedom and the separation of church and state.

ALL SUNDAY LAWS in every country and whether national, state, county or municipal, are religious, unbiblical, unjust, intolerant and, in the United States, UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

SUNDAY LAWS deny the religious rights of all who wish to follow the teachings and customs of the Bible, which definitely establish the seventh day only, as the weekly rest day, and enjoin the use of the other six days for work.

SUNDAY LAWS send men to jail for acts performed on Sunday, right and harmless on other days of the week, and in no sense criminal. Sunday laws brand as criminal men who are good and honorable citizens.

SUNDAY LAWS make provision for the legal enforcement of the religious wishes of one group by denying other groups their rights. Such legal procedures ultimately lead to legislated discrimination and persecution.

SUNDAY LAWS today as in the past are punitive measures designed to force the will of the majority upon minority groups. Persecutions and hardships are the inevitable result. Are you in favor of punishing your neighbor because he happens to believe differently from you?

SUNDAY LAWS specifically deny the authority of the Sacred Scriptures, which recognize no other weekly holy rest day than the seventh day Sabbath.



LET'S LOOK AT

Sunday Laws

SUNDAY LAWS interested Isaac Backus, champion of religious freedom, who had definite ideas on such legislation: "Religion is a concern between God and the soul with which no human authority can intermeddle consistently with the principles of Christianity."

SUNDAY LAWS make violators of their consciences of all who profess to accept the principle of religious tolerance.

SUNDAY LAWS make all public officials who contribute to their enactment, who contribute to their enforcement, or who knowingly allow their retention on any of our statutes or ordinances, violators of the constitution of both the federal and state governments, and of their oaths to support these Constitutions.

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION binds every legislative, executive and judicial officer of the entire land to support it, thereby revealing that all Sunday laws were enacted in violation of both federal and state constitutions and oaths to support them, and requiring their prompt repeal.

THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS by its rejection of the some 150 proposed Sunday laws, has thereby established them as unconstitutional and reaffirmed the oaths to support the Constitution.

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION forbids Congress from enacting religious laws—and Congress has never violated this fundamental provision of the Constitution, nor its oaths to support and defend it.

THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION further establishes itself as the supreme law of the Land, thereby prohibiting states, counties, municipalities and towns anywhere in this country from enacting or enforcing Sunday legislation.

Sundays: Legalities and Realities

Sunday selling still is strictly prohibited in some 14 states and Puerto Rico, according to the Association of General Merchandise Chains.

Several other states have locally-enforced Sunday blue laws, the association pointed out in a state-by-state summary of such legislation. The report was updated to Jan. 1, 1977.

Following is a summary of blue law legislation in each of the 50 states, Puerto Rico and Washington, D.C.

ALABAMA—store openings prohibited. Morgan County exempted from state laws, however.

ALASKA—no restrictions, except for pawn shops.

ARKANSAS—apparel and accessories, as well as other items, may not be sold on Sunday.

CALIFORNIA—no restrictions, except meats.

COLORADO—no restrictions, except automobiles.

CONNECTICUT—A recently enacted blue law has been partially struck down. Many stores open Sundays.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—no restrictions.

DELAWARE—no restrictions.

FLORIDA—no restrictions.

GEORGIA—no restrictions.

HAWAII—no restrictions.

IDAHO—no restrictions.

IDAHO—no restrictions.

ILLINOIS—a state law restricting "distributing the peace and good order of a society by labor" generally is not enforced.

INDIANA—a state law prohibiting work on Sunday generally is not enforced.

IOWA—no restrictions.

KANSAS—no restrictions.

KENTUCKY—Sunday selling prohibited, except for grocery and drug stores. A local option to allow Sunday business is allowed, but the employer must provide 24 consecutive hours of rest at some time during the week.

LOUISIANA—both wholesale and retail trade are prohibited on Sunday, except in the Vieux Carre section of New Orleans. Strictly enforced.

MAINE—trade prohibited on Sunday and several national holidays. Sporting goods are the only significant exceptions.

MARYLAND—A state statute prohibits Sunday selling with local options and exemptions. Repeal measures passed recently in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

MASSACHUSETTS—Sunday selling is prohibited, although the law is being challenged. The Supreme Judicial Court has indicated the challenge may succeed. A number of major stores opened last fall in violation of the law.

MICHIGAN—A blue law dating to 1857 still exists but is laxly enforced.

MINNESOTA—A state law here was overturned several years ago, but several local Sunday ordinances have been upheld.

MISSISSIPPI—Sunday selling of apparel is prohibited. Sporting goods sales are allowed, but sales of clothing at sporting goods stores are not.

MISSOURI—apparel sales are prohibited. Upheld by the State Supreme Court.

MONTANA—no restrictions.

NEBRASKA—no restrictions.

NEVADA—no restrictions.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—selling or exposing merchandise for sale is prohibited, but the law is not significantly enforced. Local repeal options allowed.

NEW JERSEY—local option allowed. The following counties have prohibited sales of various

types of goods including apparel: Bergen, Cumberland, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Passaic, Somerset and Union. The prohibitions are being challenged.

NEW MEXICO—no restrictions.

NEW YORK—restrictions apparently unenforceable as a result of recent Court of Appeals decision.

NORTH CAROLINA—state blue laws have been invalidated by the State Supreme Court. Several local laws have been enacted; some have been repealed, some have been upheld.

NORTH DAKOTA—business or labor for profit prohibited. Exceptions do not include apparel.

OHIO—no restrictions.

OKLAHOMA—all selling prohibited. Not generally enforced, however.

OREGON—no restrictions.

PENNSYLVANIA—sale of apparel and accessories, among other items, prohibited. Law upheld November, 1976.

PUERTO RICO—commercial establishments must close. Also required are closings on several holidays, and stores must close Fridays at 9 p.m. and at 6 p.m. on all other selling days. If a legal holiday falls on Sunday, the following Monday must be observed.

RHODE ISLAND—laws of 1963, not generally enforced, prohibit commercial activity.

SOUTH CAROLINA—wholesale and retail selling prohibited. Strictly enforced in non-beach areas.

SOUTH DAKOTA—trade prohibited, not generally enforced.

TENNESSEE—employment or requiring employment on Sunday is prohibited, not generally enforced.

TEXAS—retail selling on consecutive Saturdays and Sundays prohibited for apparel and accessories. Upheld by the courts.

UTAH—no restrictions.

VERMONT—business prohibited on Sunday. Firms with seven or less employees, including proprietor, however, are exempted, as are items such as sporting goods.

VIRGINIA—work, labor, business or employment prohibited. The following counties have voted to repeal the Sunday law: Smyth, Albemarle, Page, Warren, Frederick, Loudon, Fairfax, Fauquier, Prince William, Culpeper, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Gloucester, Chesterfield, Prince George, James City, Arlington and King George. The following cities and towns have repealed the Sunday law: Charlottesville, Falls Church, Hopewell, Williamsburg, Alexandria, Waynesboro, Fredericksburg, and Bristol.

WASHINGTON—no restrictions.

WEST VIRGINIA—apparel, footwear and other items prohibited. Sunday selling is permitted, however, under local option in 13 counties.

WISCONSIN—no restrictions, except automobiles.

WYOMING—no restrictions, but local option for restriction is permitted.

from the
**PRESIDENT'S
DESK**



IN --- WE TRUST

THERE are subversive powers at work as Madalyn Murray O'Hair has sued the federal government of the United States to have "In God We Trust" removed from our money, at tremendous expense to taxpayers and as a direct slap on the face to God-conscientious American citizens. In the not-to-far-distant future, the Supreme Court of our nation may decide, as it did in 1962 with Bible reading in our public schools, that the employment of the word "God" in the motto on American currency is in violation of the concept of "separation of church and state."

Perhaps the court might recommend that another more acceptable word be found to substitute for the objectionable word so that the entire motto would not be lost. A new motto might read, "In Man We Trust," or "In Oil We Trust," or "In IRS We Trust." After all, look at all the many benefits bestowed upon this nation due to the functions of all these mentioned.

God (Yahweh) has truly blessed America with abundance as no

other nation on the earth, yet the question remains, "Has America blessed God?" The Psalmist David once said: "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits" (Psalm 103:2). When godless forces abolish "God" a little more each year, we are facing a critical time in American history.

Our founding fathers believed in God, and most of them were devout members of some branch of Christianity. To them the entire philosophy of freedom was meaningless and void without God.

They believed that unless men are "endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights," they are indeed animal pawns of the state.

Abraham Lincoln, giant among men, whose birthday our nation remembers each February, walks tall in the annals of American history. Possessed with the finest attributes—faith, courage, wisdom, justice, compassion—he included in many of his public addresses references to Almighty God.

(Continued On Page 21)





KEEPING POSTED

THREE MISSOURI COUNTIES NO LONGER SING SUNDAY BLUES

Soap suds, baby bottles and Bibles can be purchased legally in three Kansas City, Mo., area counties for the first time in more than a century and a half.

That is because voters repealed the blue laws in those counties which prohibited Sunday sales of most items except food, medicine, and other so-called essentials.

More than 76.1 percent of those voting in Jackson, Platte, and Clay counties wanted to abolish the laws. Forty-three percent of the 263,600 registered voters went to the polls.

The state's remaining 111 counties and St. Louis still are bound by the blue laws, which are similar to 19th century laws against Sunday sales. In the 1960s, the Missouri Supreme Court ruled the older laws unconstitutional. But the legislature then adopted a form of ban on Sunday sales that followed the court guidelines.

"I'm just relieved it's all over," said state Rep. Phillip Scaglia (D—Kansas City), the legislator credited with directing the effort that led to the repeal. "This thing has worn me out," he said.

Scaglia pleaded, traded and argued with fellow legislators for six years in his campaign against the blue laws. Scaglia mounted almost a one-man repeal effort, and this year he used a new tactic—strict

enforcement of the law. He and co-workers bought banned goods on Sunday in several of the state's counties, took the evidence to local prosecuting attorneys and demanded that charges be filed.



Clothing, clothing accessories, wearing apparel, furniture, housewares, home, business or office furnishings; household, business and office appliances; hardware; tools; paints; building and lumber supply materials; jewelry; silverware; watches; clocks; luggage; music instruments, recordings, and toys, are not to be sold on Sundays in Missouri.

—1963 Law



Eventually, state legislators agreed to a repeal election for only the three Kansas City area counties.

"Had this law been enforced 12 to 14 years ago, we'd be rid of it," Scaglia said. "People of this state would literally have marched on Jefferson City."

Scaglia isn't through. He said he planned to be back in the legislature next year drafting more bills for statewide repeal of the blue laws.

"I hate to see a job half done," Scaglia said. "But that'll be a real rough one."

He estimated that he had a 50 percent chance of getting statewide

repeal of the blue laws on the ballot next year.

Under the law, as revised after the court decision 14 years ago, it is illegal to buy a baby's bottle, a box of soap, or a Bible. The laws do not ban sales of automatic rifles, pornographic magazines, or dog booties.

The Sunday sales ban law was first approved in the state in 1823. Legend says it got its name because the original law was said to have been written on blue paper.

Scaglia started his fight against blue laws after he was forced to miss an appointment with a friend.

"It was Sunday, and my friend and I had a luncheon engagement" Scaglia said. "But he had a plumbing problem. He had to drive all the way to Kansas to get a part to fix it. He was incensed. Right then and there, I decided we had to get rid of this ridiculous law."

Scaglia was upset also by the amount of sales tax Missouri loses each Sunday from shoppers going to Kansas or Illinois to make purchases, he said.

He said the state loses about \$9 million in sales tax each year in the Kansas City area and about \$35 million statewide. Scaglia added, "If you multiply that over 10 to 12 years, it's quite a tidy sum."

who likes to drive there on Sabbath, and we enjoy eating out. Because we do, the chefs and waitresses must work. So what is the answer? Name withheld, Logansport, Indiana.

Answer: The law of God pertaining to servile work on the Sabbath should not be interpreted legalistically but in a spirit of charity. Certain occupations such as farming, manufacturing, mining, commercial operations, etc., should be avoided. However, it is not the mind of the Lord that the world should come to a standstill. Therefore, necessary services such as transportation, public services, etc., are permitted. Sabbath is a day of worship, but also the chance to relax from work and enjoy other pursuits. Fellowship would be among these, as would be the opportunity to dine or recreate away from home. Since these latter pursuits must be serviced, they do not come under the ban. You and your friend can continue to eat out on Sabbath in good conscience.

—T.D.L.

(Editor's Note: We invite response from readers with differing answers to this question.)



ANNOUNCING OUTREACH '78

B.S.A. Seminar & Leadership Conference, April 29-30, 1978 at Central Seventh-day Adventist Church, 3001 Whitesburg Drive, S.E., Huntsville, Alabama.

CONVENTION THEME: Reaching a Pluralistic Society with the Sabbath Truth.

GUEST SPEAKER: The Reverend Herbert Saunders, Dean of Ministerial Training Center for Seventh-Day Baptists.

Make your plans now to attend this conference.

?Box

QUESTION: I agree that unnecessary servile work should be avoided on Sabbath. But what about eating in a restaurant? I have a friend



Our Readers Respond

I receive several magazines into my home, but THE SABBATH SENTINEL is the very best. I am interested in historical articles. I showed the special "Roots" issue to several of my friends. Please send me another copy of *The Directory of Sabbath Observing Groups*, as I gave mine to a Methodist friend in Missouri.

—R.G., Tennessee

I have glanced through your magazine and see that you have done alot of twisting of the truth. I think you could find more profitable things to do than attacking others, and I would strongly suggest that you search for the truth rather than try to make everyone believe the way you do.

—R.A., Alabama

I am glad to know that Dr. Littrell is going to be our president again for another term. He is a good man for the position.

—L.B., California

I recently came in possession of one of your publications, (THE SABBATH SENTINEL). This little magazine is the most well balanced on the Sabbath question that I have run across in many years.

I am a member of the Worldwide Church of God, and I would like to contact members of the BSA who live in my area. Please publish my name and address.

—James Cochrane
52 Allanbrooke Drive
Islington, Ontario
Canada M9A - 3N8

I thank God for THE SABBATH SENTINEL and for the solid truth that it teaches. There is not another magazine like it, so please continue to send it to me. Enclosed is \$. . . for an offering to help in your noble work.

—B.C., Ohio

Let me assure you and all your colleagues that the Lord is using the BSA to bring greater understanding of fellow Sabbatharians with one another and greater understanding of the Sabbath truth to the world.

—D.D., England

Florrie McGeachy Dies October 24

Florrie McGeachy was born in Cottingham, Yorkshire, England, on May 2, 1898 and died there October 24, 1977, at the age of 79. She was the wife of the Rev. James McGeachy, who survives.

Pastor and Mrs. McGeachy were married March 7, 1922 in Cairo, Egypt, where they both were serving as Seventh-day Adventist missionaries. They served in upper Egypt and there their firstborn twins died prematurely. In 1924 they were sent to Iraq and returned to England in 1926.

In 1927 the McGeachys joined the Mill Yard Seventh Day Baptist Church in London. Later, in 1928, Brother McGeachy was called to pastor the church. The McGeachys served as a team at Mill Yard until their retirement in 1969, giving forty years of service to the Seventh Day Baptist cause in England. Their influence was worldwide. Pastor McGeachy's pastorate covers more than a tenth part of the period of the existence of the Mill Yard Church and indeed of the denomination.

Survivors in addition to her husband include: a daughter, Ruth; two grandsons, and one sister, Ethel. Funeral services were conducted from the chapel of the Hesse Cemetery, where the burial took place.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Jerry Boozikee, director of evangelism for the Assemblies of Yahshua, announces that its official publication, KEYS magazine, will now be published monthly. KEYS has apparently met a need in the Sacred Name movement since the subscription list increased by 500 percent during 1977. Subscriptions are without charge. Assemblies of Yahshua, P. O. Box 12092, Austin, Texas 78711.

We are promoting a Sabbath calendar for Canada—probably the first one. The \$1.50 for each calendar will be used for next year's improved Canadian Sabbath calendar. Send order and money to Brother Ray, Box 336, Clearwater, B.C., Canada VOE1N0.

History of the Seventh Day Church of God, Vol. 1, 397 pages, bound, \$12.50. Richard C. Nickels, 9025 S.E. Hawthorne, Portland, OR 97216.

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, requests the honor of your presence at the marriage supper and marriage of His Son, Jesus Christ, to the church of God, 1260 days prior to the marriage in the place prepared of God, Jerusalem. The Church in Philadelphia, % Jackson C. Cron, Kingwood Apts. Apt. K, 1260 Nandina, Sweet Home, Ore. 97386. Phone 503-367-4975.

Sabbath services are held at the home of Oscar and Lucille Alexander at 10:30 a.m. Place: Chilcoat, Calif., next door to Post Office and only appointment. 30 miles north of Reno, Nev. We would also like to correspond with Sabbath worshipers.

IS AMERICA THE BIBLE LAND?
Must have stamped envelope for reply.
REMNANT OF ISRAEL, 11303 E. 7th.,
Opportunity, WA 99206.

Free prophetic magazine. New radio log: XEG, 1050 KHZ, Tuesday, 11:15 p.m. P. O. Box 4938, Odessa, Texas 79760.

In the late 1950's a man in Houston, John J. Jobe, issued literature on the Sabbath. He is now deceased, but I should like to hear from anyone who can give me information about him or furnish me with any of his literature, including his autobiography. George Dellinger, Box 40375, Indianapolis, Ind. 46240.

Little Rock SDB Church Sponsors Ads

The Little Rock Seventh Day Baptist Church believes in letting folks know it is there. It sponsors ads, such as these, in the local newspaper.

E PLURIBUS UNUM

E Pluribus Unum - from many one - is the motto of the United States. It could just as easily be the motto of the Seventh Day Baptist Church. There are differing beliefs among the people of the United States, yet we are one nation. There are also different beliefs among Seventh Day Baptists, yet as a denomination we are one.

We realize that with differing opinions that the nation does not always work together. However, when there is a crisis the nation pulls together. Pearl Harbor was just such a crisis. It was the cement that held the nation together during World War II.

Seventh Day Baptists may not all agree on every little point of doctrine, but we also have a Pearl Harbor - Jesus Christ and Him crucified. It is that fact coupled with God's Holy Spirit that allows us to worship and fellowship together in harmony.

We feel that anyone who believes in Jesus Christ or is sincerely seeking to learn more about Him and is striving to do God's will - to keep His commandments - is free to worship with us. Beyond those things, "Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind" (Rom. 14:5).

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH

4801 West 11th Street
Little Rock, Arkansas 72204
Bible Study 8:00 P.M. Friday
Worship Service 10:00 A.M. Saturday
Sabbath School 11:15 A.M. Saturday
For information call:
565-3441

WHAT ABOUT GRACE?

It is natural to assume if a church teaches that Saturday is the Sabbath, that church believes keeping the law is a condition for grace.

No! so.

Ephesians 2:8-9 plainly tells us that grace is the gift of God. And further, grace is not given because of works. All of the commandment keeping in the world will not win anyone God's free gift of grace. Grace, which comes through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, cannot be earned. Grace is God's gift to mankind! All we must do is believe on Jesus Christ (John 3:16) and we can be saved by grace.

But does accepting Jesus and coming to believe under grace mean that we can continue a life of sin - a life of breaking God's law (1 John 3:4)? Absolutely not! Or as the apostle Paul put it, "God forbid" (Rom. 6:11).

Keeping the law is not a condition for grace, but once we have received grace we cannot continue to sin.

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For information call:
565-3441

SEVENTH DAY WHAAAT??

The Seventh Day Baptist Church sponsored a booth at the Arkansas State Fair. It was an interesting study in human nature to watch passersby do a proverbial double take when they saw the sign over our booth. Most of them would walk nonchalantly by the booth. Then it would suddenly register. You could almost see them thinking, "Seventh Day Whaaat??"

In answer to their question and yours, BAPTIST - Seventh Day Baptists. The Seventh Day Baptists were the first Christian Sabbath-keeping church in America.

The first Seventh Day Baptist Church in America was organized in 1671 in Newport, Rhode Island, with seven members. The number of sabbath-keeping congregations grew and at the turn of the 19th Century those congregations organized themselves into the Seventh Day Baptist General Conference.

A Seventh Day Baptist Church was organized in Little Rock in 1959. The purpose of this series of ads is to acquaint you with our church and its beliefs, and to invite you to come and worship with us on God's Sabbath Day.

Seventh Day Baptist Church
4801 West 11th Street
Little Rock, Arkansas 72204

Bible Study 8:00 P.M. Friday
Worship Service 10:00 A.M. Saturday
Sabbath School 11:15 A.M. Saturday
For information call:
565-3441

ECHOES FROM EDEN
Home Bible Study Series
Thirteen Lessons

"It is love We keep the Commandments"



I will put My Law into their mind,
and write them in their hearts—
Hebrews 8:10

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for Home Study
\$1.25 per copy

Order from:

THE BIBLE SABBATH ASSOCIATION
Fairview, Oklahoma 73737

(Continued From Page 15)

Notable among them is the closing passage of his Farewell Address at Springfield, Illinois, on February 11, 1861, as he prepared to take the office of the presidency of the U.S.:

"Without the assistance of that Divine Being . . . I cannot succeed. With His assistance I cannot fail. Trusting in Him who can go with me, and remain with you, and be everywhere for good, let us confidently hope that all will yet be well."

During the time of the Civil War a friend of President Lincoln tried to console him in his many problems by saying, "I hope that the Lord is on our side." Lincoln replied kindly that this was not hope. Everyone was amazed, but then he went on to say, "I am not at all concerned about that, for we know that the Lord is always on the side of the right. But it is my prayer that I and this nation should always be on the Lord's side."

In September, 1862, when Lincoln issued the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, the sublime act of the nineteenth century, he made this entry in his diary: "I promised my God I would do it." Doubtless such a mighty resolution added power to this marvelous man, nerving him to accomplish what he had undertaken.

Lincoln once admonished: "We have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation has grown, but . . . we have vainly imagined in the deceitfulness of our hearts that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us. It behooves us, then, to

humble ourselves before the offended power, to confess our national sins, and pray for clemency and forgiveness."

Lincoln recognized all through his administration as chief executive of our nation that the history of this country had been wrapped in the mantle of the blessings of God. No other nation has its roots so steeped in the commitment to religious freedom—the freedom to seek and find equality before God under the established government.

Lincoln was motivated, and in turn tried to motivate others, by a spiritual zeal that continues to influence the character and purpose of our life today. While the ideal of "In God We Trust" may not have been completely realized by all Americans, it is still the valid basic principle built into the fabric of our country.

I love America, and I love God! We have a constitutional right to worship God anywhere, anytime, including the true Sabbath (Saturday), and under any circumstances as long as they are peaceable. I believe in the motto of our country "In God We Trust," and I believe that He has everything under control. I believe that He is guiding its religious and political leaders. He is guiding the decision making.



***From Sabbath
To Sunday***

By Samuele Bacchiocchi, Ph.D.
of Andrews University

\$6.50 per copy

Order from:

THE BIBLE SABBATH
ASSOCIATION

Fairview, OK 73737



chapters

Forming Branch Chapters

We ask that a branch chapter of the Bible Sabbath Association consist of not less than ten members and that no branch chapter has meetings on the Sabbath.

A branch chapter of the Bible Sabbath Association is not a church; it is in no way to be confused in the community as a church. A branch chapter is not to be in competition with any already existing Sabbath keeping church or denomination in the community. A branch chapter is organized only to promote unity and good will among all Sabbath keepers. All Sabbath-keeping people are invited into the membership of the Bible Sabbath Association.

Great care must be exercised in organizing a Bible Sabbath Association chapter. We must safeguard the honor of the holy Sabbath in the community, protect the individual church, and protect the reputation of the Bible Sabbath Association with the Sabbath-keeping denominations.

All branch chapter presidents and other officers are therefore instructed that intentional violation of the above guidelines and recommendations for organized branch chapters would be an offense to the parent body of the

Bible Sabbath Association and, therefore, would be subject, at the discretion of the Board of discretion of the Board of Directors, to dismissal from the parent body as a recognized branch chapter.

It is our hope that no chapter will become another splinter group of some denominations. Let us always keep in mind that "his banner over us is love."

Bible Sabbath Association chapters are located in:

Birmingham, Ala.
Mr. Millard B. Cook, president
P. O. Box 810
Jasper, AL 35501


Washington, D.C.
Mr. Robert E. Parrish, president
Box 25
Sunderland, MD 20689

New Orleans, La.
Mr. Jessie L. Andrus, president
125 Cadiz St.
New Orleans, LA 70115

Spokane, WA
Mr. Ted Stentzel, president
3615 North Ash
Spokane, WA 99205

Huntsville, AL
Mr. Kenneth Noel, president
Rt. 2 Box 62A
Madison, AL 35758

If you would like to organize a BSA chapter in your city or town, write for an application form. Send to President Terril D. Littrell, The Bible Sabbath Association International, Fairview, Oklahoma 73737.



**THE
B.S.A.
INNER CIRCLE
FAMILY**

Please let us hear from
you at once that you will
be a member of the BSA
Inner Circle Family to
help reach the world
with a united sabbath
effort.

As an Inner Circle BSA Family, we have bound ourselves together in mutual fellowship to win others to the Sabbath truth. Your life will be much richer for being a member of this great outreach for God.

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